

South Brisbane and West End Parish Newsletter



Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David

There's no doubt that we will hear the Christmas narrative in the coming days, so I'd like to shift our focus to the words of our second reading. St Paul is writing to the Church in Rome, many of who were not yet followers of the Way. There were a few men and women who had come to know Christ, but by and large, Rome had not yet accepted Jesus.

Small numbers and the beginnings of persecution was no reason for Christians to be timid in St Paul's eyes. In fact, now was the time, more than ever, to carry the message of Jesus' resurrection. Nothing was more admirable, supreme or imperative to St Paul than this task of proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord.

St Paul mentions that we've received grace and our apostolic mission to preach obedience to all. I think it begs the question, in what way have we exercised this apostolic mission? Maybe we struggle to live obedience of faith in our own lives – but we're called to preach it to pagan nations? Maybe many of us feel to unworthy or like a hypocrite to do such a thing.

No matter the case, this mission has been handed onto us by virtue of our baptism. So how will we respond to it? With Christmas around the corner, maybe we might take the time to offer a religious book, video or podcast to a family or friend. Maybe we might lead the prayer at our Christmas lunch. Perhaps we might give of our gifts underneath the Christmas tree to a neighbour, friend or family member we know is struggling.

Can we carry the torch of our apostolic mission into these coming days as we prepare for Christmas? Most of all, calling others into obedience begins with personal obedience. As we draw closer to Christ's birth, there will be an opportunity to return to the Lord in the Sacrament of Penance. We invite you to attend our Second Rite on

Monday 22nd at 6pm, St Mary's. Personal obedience, is still a significant form of witness and proclamation of the Gospel, but let it not be the only thing we do. With our actions, voice and lives, may we truly proclaim Jesus born to us on Christmas day who has come to save us and bring us into new life.

Fr William

Parish Administration

47 Dornoch Terrace, West End, 4101
Monday - Friday | 9am-2pm

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Connect with us:

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Parish Staff

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Parish Priest

Fr Francisco Evangelista
Associate Priest

Deacon Adam Walk
Parish Deacon

Sr Salvacion Bunao SFI
Pastoral Coordinator

Reyna Bran
Parish Secretary

St Ita's Primary School

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Phone: (07) 3838 8400
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Web: www.stitasduttonpark.qld.edu.au

Welcome to new Parishioners

We welcome any new Parishioners among us. Take the time to meet with our priests and get connected to the broader community.



Embracing the communities of:

St Mary's, South Brisbane,
St Francis of Assisi, West End
St Ita's, Dutton Park

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Fairfield

The Good Shepherd Parish acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our Churches stand.

Readings at Mass

First Reading

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call Immanuel,
a name which means "God-is-with-us."

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23(24):1-6

R/ Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R/**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R/**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R/**

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
A virgin will give birth to a son;
His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

Matt 1:23

Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.'

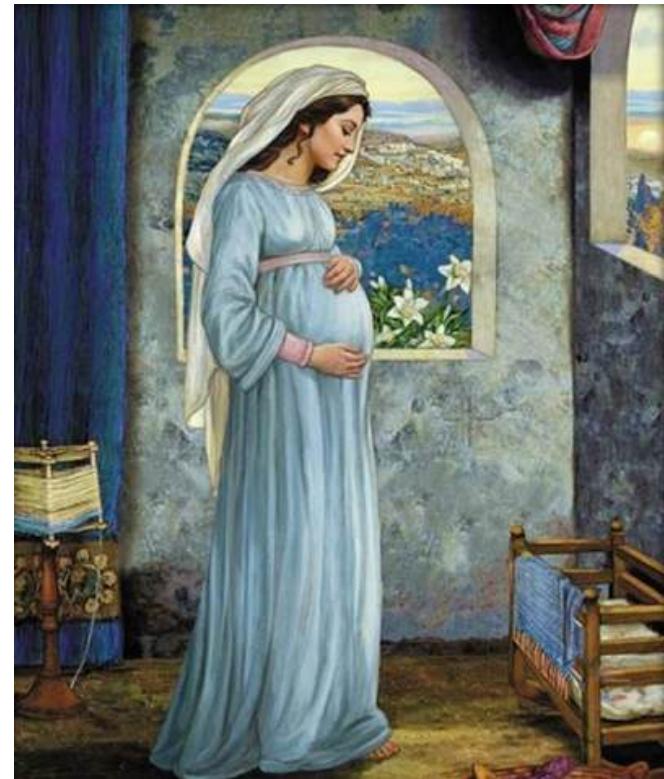
Gospel

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

Matthew 1:18-24

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.



Next Sunday Readings:

Eccl 3: 2-6, 12-14,
Ps 127(128): 1-5
Col 3: 12-21, Mat 2: 13-15, 19-23



Upcoming Events & News



Children's Nativity Play
- St Mary's

All children are warmly invited to join this year's Nativity Play

Rehearsals :
after the 9am Mass
21st of December
Nativity celebration:
24th December 6pm



2nd Rite of Reconciliation 

★ Prepare your heart for Christmas and join us on Monday, 22nd December 6pm at St Mary's Church for a peaceful evening of reflection and forgiveness ★



Christmas Carols

★ Last Thursday, a group of dedicated volunteers from our Parish visited the Mater Hospital, where they shared the joy and hope of the season by singing Christmas carols, bringing comfort, smiles, and a sense of peace to patients, families, and staff. ★








St Francis Table Hampers!

The spirit of Christmas is shining brightly in our community, with more than 150 hampers delivered by St Francis Table this week. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful volunteers and to Sr Salvacion, whose tireless dedication and generosity to the most vulnerable among us made this meaningful outreach possible.








Volunteer's Night

Our Volunteers Night on Saturday 13 December was a joyful and memorable evening, filled with laughter, friendship, and lots of fun. We shared great moments through karaoke, and trivia led by our seminarian Harold, and most of all enjoyed being together as a Parish community. A very special thank you to Sr Salvacion, who once again warmed our hearts with her delicious home-cooked meals. Above all, we are deeply grateful to all our volunteers for the time, care, and love they so generously give—your dedication truly makes our Parish a welcoming and vibrant community.








Farewell Celebration for Sr. Salvacion

Join us in honoring Sr. Salvacion for her dedication, compassion, and faithful service to our community. Let's come together to celebrate her inspiring journey and the many lives she has touched with her kindness

St. Francis Hall
Saturday, 17th January 2026
6pm



St Mary's Prayer Group

You are invited to our gatherings in faith and prayer on:




Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

May this time of reflection and fellowship deepen our connection with God and with one another. We look forward to growing in spirit together as a community.

Community News

A few notes:

Mass Times



Christmas Mass Times

**DEC
24**

- 4:30 PM CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY
- 5:00 PM MASS
ST ITA'S, DUTTON PARK
- 6:00 PM CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY
- 7:00 PM MASS
ST MARY'S, SOUTH BRISBANE

**DEC
25**

- 7:00 AM OLPS, FAIRFIELD
- 9:00 AM ST FRANCIS, WEST END
- 9:00 AM } ST MARY'S, SOUTH BRISBANE
- 5:00 PM }



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**Safeguarding is
everyone's
responsibility.**

Respect & Protect.



Zero tolerance.
No excuse for abuse.

ST MARY'S**20 Merivale St, South Brisbane**

- Mon-Fri: 7am | Sat: 8am (Rosary after Mass)
- Sun: 9am & 5pm

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI**47 Dornoch Tce, West End**

- Sun: 9am

ST ITA'S**247 Gladstone Rd, Dutton Park**

- Sat(Vigil): 5pm
- Sun: 10:30am (Indonesian)

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR**72 Victoria St Fairfield**

- Sun: 7am

CONFESIONS**St Mary's**

Fri: 7:30-8am | Sat 8:30am-9am
Sun: 4:15pm-4:45pm

PARISH ACTIVITIES**BAPTISMS**

- Sat: 10am

Booking is essential

Contact Parish Office 07 3324 3736

PRAYER & ADORATION

- Tue: 6:30pm - St Mary's Church
- Sun: 4pm - St Mary's Church

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

- Sat: after 8am Mass until Sundays 8:30am

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

- 1st Fri - 7am - St Mary's Church
- 1st Sat - 5pm - St Ita's Church
- 1st Sun - 7am - OLPS Fairfield

CHILDREN'S LITURGY (SCHOOL TERM ONLY)

- Sun: 9am - St Mary's Church

ST FRANCIS TABLE - MINISTRY TO THE ELDERLY

- 1st and 3rd Monday: 9am - 1pm

Have you considered Planned Giving?

Many parishioners use Direct Debit for 'Planned Giving' to support the upkeep of the parish of Dutton Park & South Brisbane.

We ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to our planned giving program.

Please Contact the Parish 07 3324 3736 if you are interested.

St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish have zero tolerance for abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in their activities, ministries and service. The safety of children and adults at risk is paramount.

To make an anonymous report call 1300 304 550

For more information visit:

www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding